Minister of Agriculture, Ministry of Finance and Minister of State for Labour. The GOM met on 29.8.97 to recommend steps for liquidation of past statutory dues to workers and prevent such defaults in the future. Already, as a result of efforts taken so far, outstanding arears to workers including wages have registered a notable decline over time.

**Plight of Indians Travelling without proper documents**

1016. SHRI BANGARU LAXMAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the plight of the Indians who have been taken to foreign countries, particularly Germany without proper permission/documents from those countries;

(b) whether the Indian Embassy in Belarus has shot a film in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the measures proposed to be taken by Government to ensure that the innocent people of the country are not harassed by the travel agents and also by the officials of those countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Embassy of India in Belarus has shot a film titled "Road to Germany" in Belarus narrating experiences of some Indian illegal migrants whose ultimate destination was Germany throgh Ukraine, Belarus, Lithuania and/or Poland, The quality of the film was not sound enough to telecast it in the mass media.

(d) With a view to ensuring that the recruting agencies/employers do not exploit the Indian workers, there are numerous procedural safeguards. The following guidelines/provisions of the Emigration Act, 1983 already exist to curb nefarious activities of recruiting agencies:—

(1) The Emigration Act, 1983 contains adequate legal and penal provisions to curb/control the activities of the illegal recruiting agencies. All offences under the act are cognizable.

(2) Recruitment of Indian workers for work abroad is done only through the registered Recruiting Agents. As and when cases involving recruitment by illegal agents come to the notice of the Government, immediate action is taken to refer the matter to the police authorities.

(3) Employment documents in respect of all workers in whose case emigration clearance is required are properly scrutinised in the POE Offices with a view to ensuring that the workers are sent against genuine demands only.

(4) Immigration authorities at International Airport have been advised from time to time, to scrutinise the passports and other related documents before
allowing the workers to emigrate.

(5) Missions abroad intimate the names of the fraudulent recruiting agents/employers to the Protector General of Emigrants, Ministry of Labour. Such employers are included in "Prior Approval Category" (PAC) and any further recruitment for these agencies is stopped, till such time a fresh positive recommendation is received from the Indian Mission abroad.

**अहमदाबाद में कर्मचारी राज्य बीमा निगम के मुख्यालय का प्रशासनिक ढांचा**

1017. **श्री अनन्तराय देवशंकर दवे:** क्या श्रम मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या अहमदाबाद, गुजरात में कर्मचारी राज्य बीमा निगम के मुख्यालय का कार्यकरण और प्रशासनिक ढांचा अत्यधिक असंतोषप्रद है और इसमें करोड़ों रुपए का वित्तीय घोटाला प्रकाश में आया है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो सरकार की इस पर क्या प्रतिक्रिया है;

(ग) क्या राज्य में कामगारों को उक्त योजना के लाभ प्राप्त करने में प्रशासनिक और कार्मिक अधिकारियों द्वारा परेशान किया जा रहा है; और

(घ) क्या अहमदाबाद कार्यालय में इन अधिकारियों की लम्बे समय तक तैनाती के कार्यकरण पर उनका एकाधिकार हो गया है और क्या सरकार ऐसे अधिकारियों का स्थानान्तरण करने पर विचार कर रही है?

**श्रम मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री एम० पी० वीरेन्द्र कुमार)**: (क) जी, नहीं।

(ख) प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

(ग) क०रा०बी० निगम के अनुसार क०रा०बी० योजना के लाभ प्राप्त करने में कर्मकारों को परेशान किये जाने के बारे में कोई शिकायतें नहीं हैं।

(घ) जी नहीं। क०रा०बी० निगम में अधिकारियों के स्थानान्तरण लोक सेवा की आवश्यकताओं और इस संबंध में निर्धारित नीति के अनुसार किये जाते हैं।

**Opening of Central Medical Stores by ESIC**

1018. SHRI S. MUTHU MANI: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Employees State Insurance Corporation has decided to set up its own Central medical stores in all the States; and

(b) if so, what are the places selected for opening such medical stores as on date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR): (a) to (b) The ESI Corporation has approved setting up of 'Central Medical Stores' in Uttar Pradesh and Haryana on pilot project basis. There is no proposal to set up Central Medical Stores' in all States.

**Outstanding DAV Provident Fund Contribution**

1019. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item which appeared in the Indian Express dated 29th August, 1997, under the caption "DAV stints or Rs. 250 crore of P.F.";

(b) if so, what are the details of the P.F. contribution from DAV School outstanding as on the Ist April, 1994; and

(c) what action Government have taken against the management for not depositing those dues and with what results?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

**Unemployed persons registered in the Employment Exchanges in Punjab**

1020. SHRI IQBAL SINGH: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Unemployed graduates/post-graduates who have registered their names in the Employment Exchanges in the State of Punjab, exchange-wise during the year 1996-97;

(b) the number of persons who have been provided jobs during this period;

(c) whether Government propose to cover all the registered unemployed youths during the period 1997-98;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the steps being taken or proposed to be taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR): (a) and (b) The number of graduates/post-graduates job-seekers, all of whom are not necessarily unemployed, on the live register of the Employment Exchanges as on 30.6.1994 (latest available) and the placement made by various Employment Exchanges for such Job-seekers in Punjab during Jan-June 1994 are given in statement (*See* below).